

TOWN OF WEBSTER

Office of Selectmen

945 Battle Street/Rte. 127

Webster, NH 03303

Tel. (603) 648-2272

Webster Board of Selectmen's Meeting – June 16, 2008

7:00 P.M. Roll Call – Selectmen present: George Hashem, Thomas Mullins and David Klumb.

The Board signed the Payroll Check Warrant and the Accounts Payable Warrants. Selectman Klumb made a motion to accept the June 2, 2008 minutes as written, seconded by Selectman Mullins and approved. Selectman Mullins made a motion to accept the May 19, 2008 non-public session minutes; seconded by Selectman Klumb and approved.

The Board signed the following for Administrative Assistant Judith Jones:

- A leave slip and;
- A Purchase Order #15 to Mainstay Technologies in the amount of \$342 for emergency repairs to the computer for the Police Department.

Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham provided the monthly printout which generated general discussion on expenses that may have exceeded their expected percentage to date i.e. gasoline for fire and police.

The Board set a Public Hearing date per RSA 231:59-a to consider declaring Old Route 127 as an Emergency Lane to be held on Monday, June 30, 2008 at 7:30 P.M.

Fire Chief Adam Pouliot advised that it has been busy the last few weeks. One building fire left the home badly damaged, but salvageable. Chief Pouliot had the forms from NH Retirement for an insurance benefit which insures the volunteer firefighters in the case of permanent disability or his beneficiary in the case of death for an annual fee of \$3.00 per firefighter. He also reported that a firefighter has returned safely from Iraq.

Police Chief Brian Milano presented his semi-monthly report. He advised that he was taking measures to curtail the Department's gas consumption as part of trying to stay within budget.

Road Agent Emmett Bean reported that all was well with the roads.

Paul Silberman, new owner of the former "Cowdrey's Store", explained the recent improvements he has made to the store and inquired what Town permits he might need and was looking for the Selectmen's blessing to open as a retail store to sell wooden bowls and the like. Selectman Mullins noted that the previous owners had sold everything possible at retail. The Board agreed that the use proposed was not a change in use and welcomed him to Webster. Fire Chief Pouliot advised that he needs to check any business that has a change of occupancy for life safety issues. He will check with the State Fire Marshall and then get together with Mr. Silberman.

Kim Dean and Ray Scott met with the Board regarding the possible accessory apartment at 12 Centennial Drive as had been reported to the Board. They assured the Board that the facility is only a bedroom, bathroom, and a few cupboards, but no cooking facilities such as a microwave or hot plate. The definition of an "Accessory Apartment" includes provisions within for cooking, eating, sanitation and sleeping, which this facility does not meet.

The Board reviewed and made changes to the RFP draft for Webster's assessing needs to include a requirement that there be public access via the internet to the assessing records at no expense to the public. It is expected to be sent out the first of August to the various assessing companies.

Bob Lake discussed plans to remove and replace the home of Trisha Blake at 139 Clothespin Bridge Road. This home does not meet the setbacks and inquired as to what may be required to move forward. The Board referred to the Zoning Ordinance under Article VI Paragraph 4 which says that a building can be replaced if done within a two year time frame when "partially or totally destroyed by reason of obsolescence, fire or other act of God..." provided "that the proximity to a lot line or right-of-way may be no nearer than the lesser of the original building and the setbacks defined in this ordinance." Mr. Lake requested a letter for his file advising that the project was allowed under Webster's Zoning Ordinance.

Selectman Mullins will review two possible zoning violations recently brought to the Board's attention regarding apartments prior to any notification to the owners. A letter will be sent to 214 Clough-Sanborn Hill Road requesting that the owner inform the Board of the use of space over the garage.

Per RSA 669:73 Selectman Klumb made a motion to appoint Kim Dean as a Trustee of Trust Funds to fill the remaining year's term of Sandra Starkey; seconded by Selectman Mullins and unanimously approved. Mrs. Starkey resigned as she was recently made aware that it was a conflict of interest for her to serve as a Library Trustee and a Town Trustee.

Merrimack County Registry of Deeds has instituted a new charge affecting the Town when Mylars or deeds are recorded. Each applicant for a subdivision or lot line adjustment will now be required to make a check in the amount of \$25 payable to NH-LCHIP.

As the sign for the Paul P. Mock Forest has fallen off the rock across the river, the Conservation Commission will be advised so that they can make arrangements to have it reattached to the rock.

The next Hopkinton Webster Landfill Committee meeting will be held in Webster at 7:00 P.M. on July 10, 2008.

7:50 P.M. Selectman Klumb made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 93-A:3(e) for the purpose of discussing legal issues; seconded by Selectman Mullins. Roll Call: Chairman Hashem – yes; Selectman Mullins – yes; and Selectman Klumb – yes. Mrs. Jones accompanied the Board.

7:54 P.M. Chairman Hashem reconvened the meeting. He advised that the Board referred the legal issued discussed to Town Counsel.

Chairman Hashem called for a short recess.

8:10 P.M. Chairman Hashem reconvened the meeting. Sports Representative Heidi Pelchat, Parks Commissioner Brenda Silver and Fire Chief Pouliot met at the Board's request to discuss the gate, which can be locked, at the entrance by the school and the locked chain before the grove entrance. Mrs. Silver advised that the gate at the entrance was first put up and kept locked during sports events to keep the cars away from the playing field while children were using the field. The locked chain to the grove was to keep cars from tearing up the grove. The issue now is that the Fire Department needs immediate access to the river at any given time. There was discussion on the pros and cons of having the gate, chains or even boulders to discourage entrance into the grove. The final decision was that the gate will remain open at all times and the chain will stay locked across the entrance to the grove (knowing that any Fire Department may have to use it at any time and may have to cut the lock or chain for access). There will be no use of boulders to discourage cars from skirting around the chain, as had been suggested by Chief Pouliot, until Mrs. Silver looks into perhaps some sturdy type of fencing to block off that area. Chief Pouliot will look into additional signage to indicate the roadway as a designated fire lane.

8:22 P.M. Selectman Klumb made a motion to adjourn this meeting; seconded by Selectman Mullins and so moved.

George K. Hashem

Thomas S. Mullins

David E. Klumb

BOS/jj